

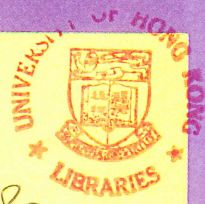
G
A
Y
&
L
E
S
B
I
A
N
M
A
G
A
Z
I
N
E

CONTACTS

接觸雜誌

P r i c e
\$30

23 JAN 1996



2580

6B

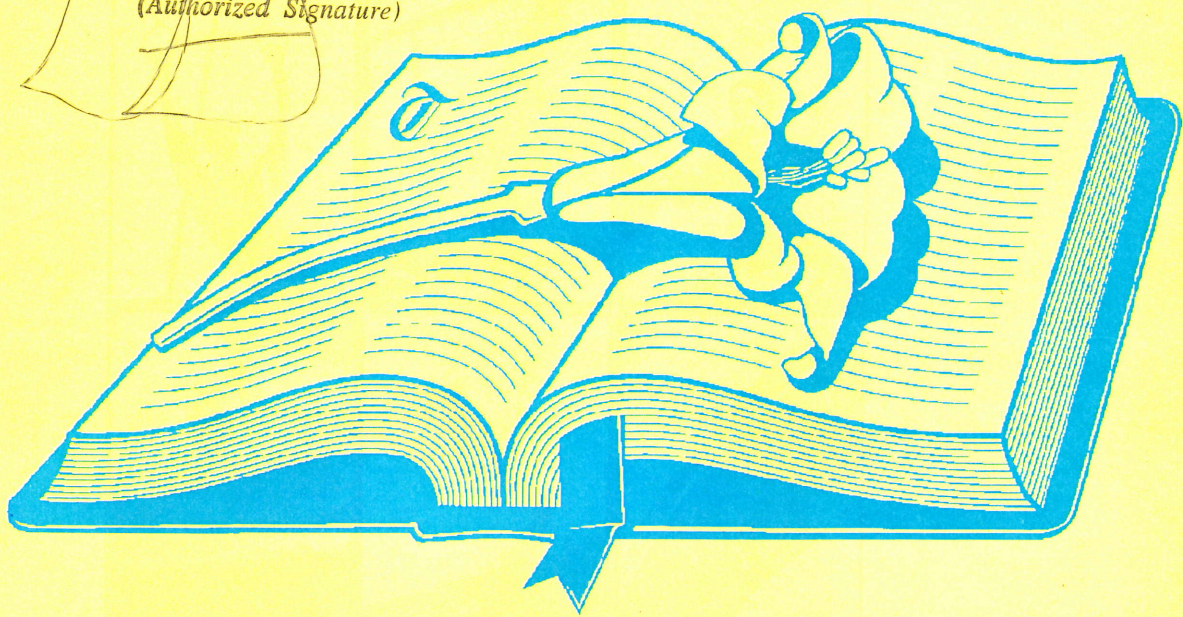
Sodom

&

Gomorrah:

For and on behalf of
ISLAND PUBLISHING CO., LTD.

[Handwritten Signature]
(Authorized Signature)



What The Bible

Doesn't

Say

警告：本物品內容可能令人反感：不可將本物品派發、傳閱、出售、出租、交
給或出借予年齡未滿18歲人士或將本物品向該等人士出示、播放或放映。
WARNING: THIS ARTICLE CONTAINS MATERIAL WHICH MAY OFFEND AND MAY
NOT BE DISTRIBUTED, CIRCULATED, SOLD, HIRED, GIVEN, LENT, SHOWN, PLAYED
OR PROJECTED TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS

May/June
1995

KC
06.766
76

THE BABYLON HONG KONG



COME TO CHECK OUT THE FABULOUS
TWO FOR ONE HAPPY HOURS AT BABYLON

8:00 PM TO 12:00 AM

EVERY DAY EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS & SATURDAYS
HAPPY HOURS APPLIES TO STANDARD DRINKS & BEER ONLY

5/F, Kingpower Commercial Bldg.,
409-413 Jaffe Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2573-3978

It is disquieting to learn that at least four Gay businesses have been either inspected, visited or raided, by Asia's finest, in the last month. But should the presence of police in Gay places be a cause for concern?

In the case of a visit by a couple of members of the constabulary, (usually plain clothes officers) who are simply ensuring that all is well within premises, we think that it is right and reasonable to expect visits. According to our informants this type of visit is usually carried out quietly and quickly and in the majority of cases most users of the premises will be unaware that they have been visited.

Inspections are a different matter. These are by uniformed officers and every part of the building or premises are checked for licences. Most businesses are inspected at least on a quarterly basis.

Raids are the worst of the unannounced swoops by the thin blue line (in summer it's a thin green line). Anyone within 200 yards will be made aware very quickly indeed of what's happening by the pounding on the stairs of up to 20 pairs of heavy boots.

Everyone present is obliged to produce their ID which always (but always) causes some drunken gweilo to start shouting verbal abuse at the police and ends up with said gweilo getting nicked.

Of course, we are repeatedly assured, the ID's are recorded only in the individual officers notebook and NEVER ever put on and centralised lists or computers.

Clearly no-one (except maybe the police) like raids. If there are serious breaches of the law it may be that this is the only way to enforce the law. But surely raids ought to be the last resort.

Gay businesses have a moral responsibility to keep the Gay community informed and to protest whenever police action is excessive or they are being harassed.

Sound OK?

Yes, but then we heard of the case of the sauna in Wan Chai that is raided almost on a monthly basis and they haven't done anything to tell their customers that they should expect this. Neither have they, as far as we could discover, made any attempt to make any kind of complaint. Clearly the places in question are afraid of telling everyone as it would almost certainly have an effect on the business. Are they putting taking our money before their integrity and moral obligations?

Contacts Magazine

GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2817-9447 Fax: (852) 2817-9120

Editor

Barrie Brandon

Design & Layout

Chris Dennis

News & Features

Camille Ho, Thomas Choi,

Advertising & Subscriptions

Tony NgContributors

Eugene J. Patron, Kathy Worthington, Camille Ho, Deacon Maccubbin, Mark Prston, Danny Wong

Who's who?

Vol 3 Number 3

[v.3 No.2]

Contents

13

Message
to the Straights

16

Sodom
What the Bible really
says

22

Arthur
Short Story

26

An Interview with
Gerald Libonati

Features

10	South Beach
12	Super Heroes
24	Don't Hurt Yourself

Regulars

4	Chinese Story
6	Global Gay News
8	Out and about
14	Media Watch
20	Feedback
29	Personals
30	Gay Guide

Front Cover: Sodom & Gomorrah

Printed by Island Publishing Company Ltd.,
Hong Kong GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong

The mention or appearance of likeness of any persons or organisations or advertising in CONTACTS MAGAZINE is not to be taken as any indication of the sexual, social or political orientation of such persons or organisations. No responsibility can be assumed for any unsolicited materials and submissions is construed as permission to publish without further correspondence and the fee payable at our usual rates. Advertisers are advised that the copy is their sole responsibility under any relevant legislation. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the permission of the publishers.

愛 的 宣 言



「天送，你過來一下好嗎？」

說話的是我母親。我正為模型公仔上色，並沒有即時過去。只是說「媽，有什麼事嗎？」媽，並沒有說什麼，只是用手勢及眼神示意我過去。雖然很可能是一件完全與我無關的事，但我還是過去坐坐她的身旁。

她指著一張相片說「天送，看你剛出世時只得這一點點大，我們真的怕你養不大。」說著便落淚。

真的，看見相片的我，跟平常剛剛出世的嬰兒差了一大截。連自己也不相信可以象現在那樣高大。

真的，看見相片的我，跟平常剛剛出世的嬰兒差了一大截。連自己也不相信可以象現在那樣高大。

我用紙巾幫她擦去眼淚。她還說「每當你哭，我們都會很高興地抱著你說天送，你是我們的乖寶寶，是上天賜給我們的。親戚朋友還說我們傻，孩子哭還笑。」

皆因我是一個晚兒，我出世時父母已經四十有餘了。十歲時父親因病逝世。母親對我的愛更加有增無減。她常說：「雖然爸不在世，但你不會孤獨的，你還有媽。」

我實在是一個幸運兒，可以有這樣的母親。我並沒有隱瞞我是一名男同性戀者。當初我對她說的時候，她並沒有張大咀不知所措。

她說「天送，雖然我對同性戀這一個名詞，並不十分清楚，但我相信你，我相信你的心。我相信上天賜你生命並不是要你作壞事。你所做的，是隨心而發，我相信你的心。」

就是這樣，我便得到同母親的認同，她給我很大的支持。雖然家庭那一關我是過了，但我還不是一名幸運兒。母親給我的只是支持，她很努力去瞭解我，但我們之間還是有

一度鴻渠，不是每一件事都向對方說。親情我已經得到了，但我嚮往的是愛情，我嚮往同自己的所愛分享一切七情六慾。但到現在我已二十八歲了。我還是找不到真愛。

愛情給我的感覺如霧一樣。當初是輕輕的，你也不會察覺它的來臨，然後，便突然間濃烈，你什麼也看不到，也觸摸不到，只像盲頭蒼蠅亂衝亂撞。但當你看清楚時，它現經消失得無影無蹤了。

愛，真的這樣難尋嗎？我相信愛是難覓的，但我不相信它是絕跡的。我曾經有過兩三次的愛情。但這幾段情都是來去無蹤。

第一次在我二十一歲生日那天。朋友在家為我慶祝生日。那一晚，我相信我這一生也不會忘記。我還清楚記得他望著我時的神情，是如此令我著迷。當我們眼神一經接觸，對方已經有一種感覺，你是我的。是一種火花，是爆炸性的，是一發不可收拾的。相方都不可以控制自己的情緒。一刻不見對方，也想著對方。腦海中只想著他現在在做什麼呢？跟誰人說話呢？就算深宵也想跟對方談話。

但不知是否來的激烈，去也激烈，我們竟然為一件小事爭執。

最後他跟我說：「天送，對不起。我想我們還是不能夠適應對方的生活，與其不高興，倒不如，來一個解決吧。」

就這樣我們這段激情只能維持七日而終結，這七日的愛情，由開始、發展到完結，我都沒有好好的掌握，只是跟著它走。雖然時間祇有一星期，但我已經原氣大傷了。我想我可能不會有第二次的戀愛。

我的好朋友，李志成就曾經取笑我說「這算不了什麼。只是皮肉之苦。傷不到內臟。很快便會再次出擊的了。」雖然志平說得如此輕妙淡寫，但我實在是痛苦的。連母親也察覺。她對我說「天送，有什麼事

想跟我說嗎？」

我想說，但我不知怎樣開始，說了她會明白同性戀者對愛的奇望嗎？她會明白我的感受嗎？所以我只說「沒什麼。只是公司有些事吧！不要緊的。」

雖然口是這樣說，心還是苦的。愛情是什麼？我不知道。我還沒開始認識「愛」它已經離開了。試問我又怎樣知道呢？

第二次的戀情，就更加糊裏糊塗。我認識他的時候是四年後，又是我的生日派對。今次我的朋友跟我開玩笑，在一個溜冰場為我慶祝生日。那一晚，我要帶著每一位朋友繞場一週。當輪到他時，他笑著說「不用了，我真的一點不會。」

但我卻說「不要緊。今晚是我的生辰，不要拒絕我好嗎？」

我望著他。他並不難看，其實還算得上英俊。但我就是沒有把他放在心上。

他騷騷頭說「好吧！但你不要笑我行嗎？」

「來吧！」

我拖著他的手，開始繞圈。他真的一點也不會，每每他將跌時，我便會用雙手將他身子抱著。可能因為這樣他便開始對我的傾慕吧。

自那天起，他開始約會我。我亦單身付會。因為他是一個很好的伙伴。跟他一起我一點也不悶。我可以跟他說電影，小說，漫畫等等。他也懂。我們相交了一段日子，我並沒有發覺到他對我不單止友情。

直至朋友跟我說「你們兩人走得很密，是不是拍拖呀！」

我立刻說「不要說笑吧！我和振邦。他不曾是我的愛人。他只可以是我的好兄弟。」

志成卻說「你不殺白人，但白人為你而死！」我想，我還是應該和振邦談談。

我開門見山和振邦說「你是不是愛上了我。」

他含糊說「我也不知道。」

但我追問他「是，還是不是。」

這次他點頭說「是。」

我說：「振邦，我們是不可能的，一開始我便沒有這感覺，到將來我也想信我們之間也不可能會有愛情的感覺存在，不要浪費時間在我身上了。」我拍拍他的肩。

他說「我知到，但縱使你不愛我，但我還是愛你的。」

「振邦這又可苦呢！我們不可以做朋友嗎？」

他木無表情說「可以，當然可以，只要我還可以見到你，你說什麼我也會做。」

自那次談話後，振邦約我十次，我會去五次，然後五次，我會去一次，至到最後，我要有其他人出席我才會應他的約，因為我不想他有期望，就這樣便過了一個糊裏糊塗的愛情，但這次，我連感覺也沒有，它無聲的來，也無聲的去。

我有一個朋友，他什麼也不在乎，金錢、物質、男人，任何事他也不放在心，這些身外物我也不會太看重，但對於愛情，我一生所嚮往的，尋求的他也不當什麼，他不相信佛，也不相信主，是一個無宗教信仰的人，他有一句名言常掛在口唇邊「倚靠別人，倒不如相信自己。」他有一個很特別的名字，姓任單名一個兒字，人如其名，任性不羈，我們有過這樣的談話。

「任，你對愛情有何看法？」

「愛情，只是人與人之間的一種感覺，沒有什麼值得提。」

他便是這樣，什麼也不值得提，值得說。

我說「你不覺得，沒有它生命是很空虛寂寞嗎？」

「我對愛情沒有太大的希望，我相信自己，人應該理性的，是應該可以控制到自己的情緒，不應讓感覺控制自己。」

「但我認為，人是感情的動物，我

們又不是機器，不應這樣理智吧！」

「但你有沒有想過，沈迷它是很危險的，年終不知有多少人為這個情字而死，他們在找死時有否想過身邊其他人，他死了，他的父母會怎樣，跟他一起去尋死嗎！」

「我又不是這個意思，我只是想說，生活應該有些生氣，愛情便是生命中的推動力。」

「那你便錯了，情只是你們的想像力，當激情過後，還不是會為一點芝麻綠豆的小事吵過不休。」

我說「可能吧！」

「人，只不過是想找個伴侶，在金錢上可以分擔一半，在家事上又多一個人分擔，在假期時又不雖要跟不相幹的人磨，只要躲在家中可以有和你一起享受假期，所以愛情的最終目定只是當你回到家中，有一個人人在等你，為你更衣，拿上濕毛巾給你擦面，這樣的愛情已經是滿分的了。」

但我不明，為什麼我對愛情的要求不是這樣，我希望還青春去感受愛情的力量，縱是痛我也希望得到，我回到家問媽「你對愛情有沒有希望。」

媽笑著說「老了，還談什麼愛情，不用為錢擔心已心滿意足了。」

「媽，說給我知好嗎？」母親敵不過我的死纏，

說「我跟你父親是相親識的，相方家長滿意我們便結婚，愛情對於我，並不重要，我想我的要求並不太高，只要有一個伴侶跟我說說笑笑便已足夠了。」

為什麼，人人對愛情已經失去信心，他們只希望一個伴侶，而我卻對愛情這樣重視，是不是因為我還沒有擁有過它呢？還是我對愛情還不了解呢！但我還是希望它的來臨。

龍子

GLAMOUR

ESCORT

&

MASSAGE



2882-9203

Many different
styles
of
young

handsome models

Reasonable prices

BEST SERVICE

GUARANTEED

OUT CALLS 24 HOURS



Puerto Rico

Religious student groups are protesting a new gay literature course at the state university, arguing that it violates their traditional values and promotes homosexuality. A spokesperson for student protesters at the University of Puerto Rico, said last month that they worried the course "shows only a pro-gay point of view" and eventually could become required for obtaining a degree. "Gay and Lesbian Narratives" is being offered next semester in the English Department. The Puerto Rican Association of University Professors approved a resolution defending the course, arguing it will help expand students' cultural horizons. Professor Rafael Bernabe said "opposition to the course constitutes a threat to the civil rights of homosexuals." Roman Catholic Cardinal Luis Aponte Martinez, the U.S. commonwealth's top Catholic leader, did not object to the course but urged the university to create a religious literature course as well.

Singapore

Bugis Street. The Singapore Film Festival held recently, had a very strong Gay theme. One Gay film showing lots of naked boys & men with scenes of genitalia and anal sex among gays premiered 13th April at Raffles Hotel Jubilee Theatre. Gay actors/actresses were on stage to thank supporters.

Netherlands

Holland's political centre, the Hague, intends to pay tribute to 5 Dutch fighters for the emancipation of gays and lesbians by naming streets after them. The streets will be part of a small new housing development, already informally dubbed "homoville". The streets on the estate will among others be given the names of the writers Anna Blaman and Tjil Brugman, pioneer gay activist Jacob Schorer and doctor Aletrino, who together with Schorer played a major role in the pre-war "Nederlands Humanitair Wetenschappelijk Komitee", the first organised attempt to improve rights for gays and lesbians.

Japan

Seven percent of Japanese companies that responded to a Tokyo Chamber of Commerce survey would ask an employee to quit if he or she tested HIV-positive, the Kyodo news service reported March 14. Twenty-six percent of companies plan to treat AIDS like any other disease while 21 percent don't know what they will do when confronted with the issue. Nine percent of the companies plan to test all employees for HIV and two percent plan to test job applicants. Meanwhile, Nikkei Weekly reports that 114 Japanese gays got HIV through sex in 1994, a 97 percent increase over 1993, according to the government's AIDS Surveillance Committee. One hundred ninety-four heterosexuals got HIV via sex last year, an increase of 14 percent.

Poland

A parliamentary commission drafting Poland's new constitution voted on Tuesday to include a ban on discriminating against people on grounds of sexual orientation. PAP news agency reported that 16 deputies in the left-wing-dominated commission voted in favour of the ban, six against and seven abstained. President Lech Walesa's representative argued against the provision, saying it could be used by sexual minorities to demand changes in family law such as allowing marriages between people of the same sex or adoption by them of children. But supporters of the move said it would bring Poland, which currently has no explicit constitutional protection for groups such as homosexuals, into line with the European Parliament.

UK

Bishop of London David Hope, who in March admitted his "ambiguous sexuality," was on last month named the new number-two in the Anglican Church of England. Hope, 53, will become Archbishop of York in August when the incumbent, John Habgood, retires. Hope, who had been targeted by gay activists, fuelled a debate about Anglican attitudes towards homosexuals last month when he described his own sexual orientation as being in a "grey area." At a news conference to mark his nomination, Hope said he appreciated the work of homosexual clergy within the Church of England. "As a bishop, where there are contentious issues, it is my job to ensure that all sides are given a proper voice and that this is listened to," he said. The Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement called on Hope to "lead the Church towards a full acceptance of lesbian and gay people."

In the silence of darkness, there are stars and hope.
We offer support and service.

DESIGNED BY JET BROS.

本會所提供的服務包括：

- ✧ 愛滋病毒抗體測試
- ✧ 援助基金
- ✧ 互助小組
- ✧ 個人輔導
- ✧ 及其他服務

We offer the following services :

- ✧ HIV Antibody Blood Test
- ✧ PWA Support Fund
- ✧ Support Group
- ✧ Personal Counselling
- ✧ And More

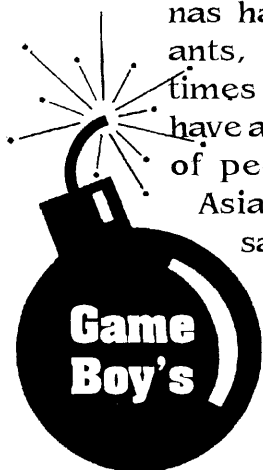


香港愛滋病基金會
HONG KONG AIDS FOUNDATION

熱線電話 AIDS Helpline 513 0513

Out about

YY
desperately trying to hold on to the Gay crowd announced a super new Gay night called Hallelujah. Being cynical we noticed that they have pushed the Gay night to the least popular of the week-Sunday. Everyone we spoke to said they wouldn't or couldn't go as they have to work Monday.



In Wan Chai one of Hong Kong's busiest saunas has, according to our informants, being raided at least three times since the New Year. There have also been several arrests made of people, both Europeans and Asians, found having sex. The sauna still doesn't give out condoms or have any safer sex posters or leaflets.

Yeah,

The Tea Dance continues at Club 97 on the first and third Sunday of the month with half-price drinks....The boys in the cage are a rumour.

(From Get a Life, Hong Kong Sunday Standard 30th April 1995) *Ed:* The Tea Dance changed to the first Sunday of the month in January '95. The Boys in the cages stopped about 18 months ago. Maybe they should really get a life.

S
u
r
e

Asian Lesbian Network

will be holding their third conference in Taiwan from the 11th-15th August. The aim of the conference is for all Asian lesbians to meet and get to know one another. The fee is US\$ 150 which includes all conference materials, room and board. Details: ALN-Taiwan. P.O. Box 7-760, Taipei 106, Taiwan, ROC

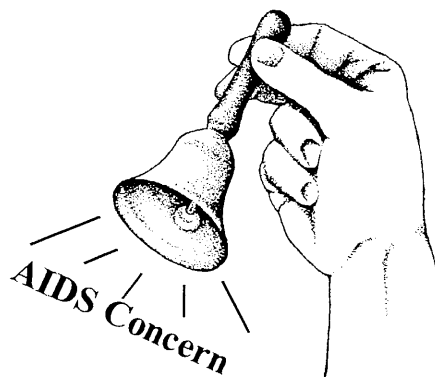
10% Club

同志文化茶座(一),一個以傾談形式舉行的茶座,今月首次舉行.地點是Date Line Cafe,日期是本月21日星期日,時間由下午三時至七時.今次的嘉賓是周華山.如有任何查詢請致電十分一會.

Quote of The Month

Too many of us blindly trust hetero educators to tell us what we need to know. Rather than join a community, most homosexuals call it a 'ghetto' and hold out for the private and personal privileges they can win on their own.

Louie Crew



are holding their next orientation for new volunteers on Saturday 10th June. The orientation will be in Chinese — with the one being held in July in English—for details contact Danty Chan on 2898-4411

Anyone for strawberries?

The latest idea to come from Anna Wu's office for understanding human rights is that everyone enjoys strawberries so everyone can enjoy life....if you see what we mean. There will be a rally on Sunday May 21st outside the Cultural Centre in Tsim Sha Tsui from 3pm. Everyone welcome. Please do go along to show your support for human rights in Hong Kong.

in Causeway Bay, has had to stop selling alcohol as it hasn't yet got a drinks licence. Police inspected the premises in March and found the bar to be contravening licensing laws.



Members Connection

**S
T
O
P**

Did you see the advertisement about their sex-y show every Friday and Saturday? Yes? Well, so apparently did Asia's finest. When the show started two of the audience, according to one source, got up introduced themselves to the management as police officers and stopped the tame but seemingly harmless entertainment. Perhaps if you're going to have a sexy show it would be prudent not to plaster notices in Lan Kwai Fong and surrounding streets telling all and sundry.

**S
T
A
R
T**

ARRESTED

Several stories reached us this month of Gay video suppliers being arrested for selling pornographic tapes. One was in Mongkok and the other Wan Chai. We've said it before and we'll say it again: make sure you buy tapes only from reputable sources; otherwise maybe they have your name and address on their list.

'About Trudi' an Art Exhibition by artist Jerzey Lesko

The artist, new to Hong Kong, will exhibit his paintings, based on a lesbian friend, in the exhibition space 1/F Dorset House, Tai Koo Place, 979, Kings Road, Hong Kong. The exhibition will run from 11 a.m.— 7 p.m. 12th 31st May.

South Beach Business Guild

By Eugene J. Patron



Members launched Do It At the Dot:

**They prominently display a pink dot to tell customers,
'we recognise the power of your gay dollars'.**

South beach, a section of Miami Beach, Florida, may be famous with Lesbian & Gay travellers for its night life, but once a month the real action is at the breakfast meeting of the South Beach Business Guild (SBBG). The guild has become a force in the overall economic and political landscape of Miami Beach.

At 8 am in a hotel ballroom, the Mayor, the City Manager, the Police and Fire Chiefs, and a number of City Commissioners have come to participate in a frank discussion about city services with about 100 SBBG members. Discounting the idea that gay voters and gay dollars are why he's here, Commissioner Neisen Kasdin counters that the guild is "one of the most outstanding civic organisations on Miami Beach. It's grown beyond just a Lesbian & Gay organisation - it represents the new business establishment that's revitalising the city."

It was only 2-1/2 years ago that an attempt was made to organise the city's rapidly expanding gay community. Credit goes to Wade Whynot and his lover and business partner, Gabriel Prieto, who opened GW, South Beach's first gay bookstore. "So many gay businesses were opening, but there was nothing like the gay business guild in Key West where we'd moved from," recalls Whynot. The idea was a hit: "We had the support of the business community and government. Everyone wanted to help," says Whynot.

Unlike older business guilds elsewhere, SBBG got started without backing from local bar owners. Rather, it was Lesbian & Gay

professionals and retailers who ran with the idea of a business network. Members launched Do It At the Dot, a campaign in which they prominently display a pink dot to tell customers, 'we welcome you and recognise the power of your gay dollars.'

With over 150 members and dues of \$100-400 depending on employee count, SBBG spends \$20,000 a year on advertising. The city of Miami Beach last year gave the guild an additional \$10,000 to market a 'Winter Party Weekend' aimed at Lesbian & Gay tourists. Yet most local marketing dollars are controlled by a county-wide tourism authority which has yet to heed SBBG's calls for niche marketing to Lesbian & Gay tourists.

The guild's remedy: expand its influence into the political structure of greater Miami. As SBBG President Tim Barnum explains, that strategy has already worked. "I've been placed on several city boards," says Barnum. "Another member, Clark Reynolds, sits on the zoning board - the board to be on. When we elect members to the SBBG board, we include people with power in the community."

In fact, many guild members are also members of Dade Action PAC, the county-wide Lesbian & Gay political action committee. "How much power do we really have? We might have quite a bit," ventures Barnum. "We've never had to use it. The political leaders want to gain our favour, and we don't argue." ■



同志熱線 24小時

資訴 → 娛樂 → 輔導

一應俱全

切莫遲疑

即電: 173-969612

(IDD用戶收費每六秒一元)

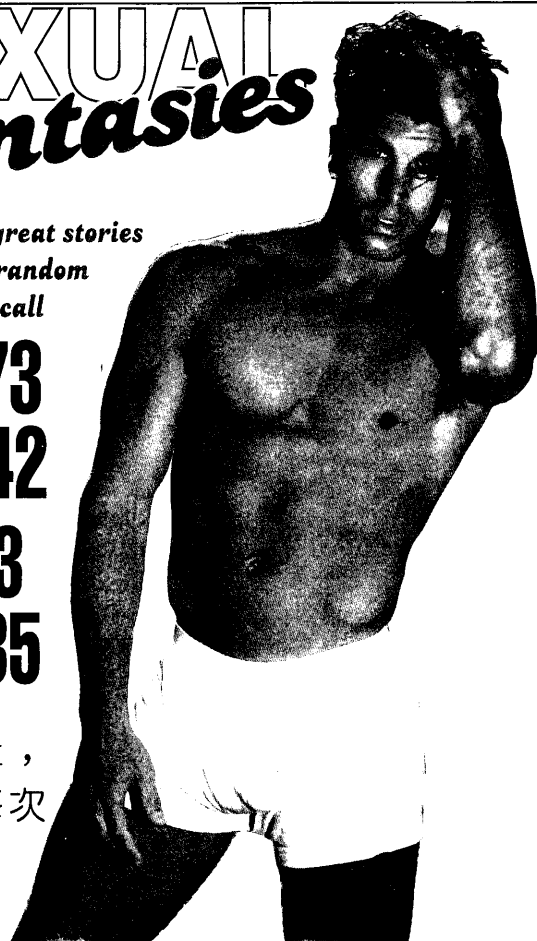
SEXUAL Fantasies

a selection of great stories
one chosen at random
each time you call

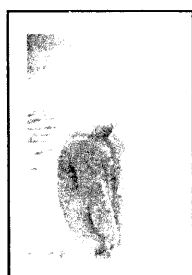
ENGLISH 173
969-742

中文請電: 173
969-235

一連串
精彩故事，
帶給你每次
不同的
內容。



You can apply for barring to Infoline 173 by calling Hotline 1000.
OVER 18's ONLY CALLS COST \$1/6 SECS



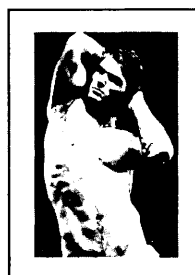
Card no. 1



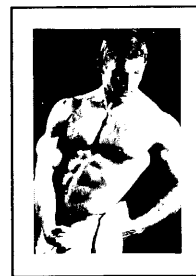
Card no. 3



Card no. 4



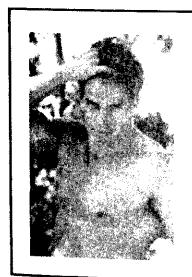
Card no. 5



Card no. 6



Card no. 7



Card no. 2



Card no. 9



Card no. 8

Notecards

Each set contains Nine Blank Cards with envelopes. Choose a selection of nine different cards or, if one particular picture grabs you, nine of the same card. Either way you're guaranteed the pleasure of owning and sending the very best gay Notecards available of handsome, muscular men in Hong Kong.

Price \$160 (less 10% for subscribers)

Please send crossed cheque to

Island Publishing Co. Ltd. GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong

Super-heros

by Kathy Worthington

Most people at some point in their lives have played at, or dreamed of being, a super-hero.

Who the super-hero was depended mostly on when we were children: was it Roy Rogers or Dale Evans? Sky King? The Lone Ranger? Robin or Batman? Wonderwoman? A Power Ranger? We've watched war movies or read about World War II and the Holocaust and we've imagined that we wouldn't have been Nazi supporters or collaborators, we would've been heroes, members of the Resistance, war heroes. We would have helped the Jews like Schindler. If we'd been a Jew we would have resisted or fought back, like the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto.

When presented with Right vs. Wrong, the good guys vs. the bad guys . . . if courage and risk taking is ever called for, we'll rise to the challenge, take a stand, make a difference. **We've never** been able to understand about ordinary German citizens during the Holocaust who just minded their own business, did nothing, hoping **someone else** would take the chances, hoping **someone else would do something**.

As Gay people the 1990's, we have our chance to be heroes, even super-heroes. On a daily basis we have opportunities to be courageous, take a stand, make a difference. There are, I think, some clear cut issues of right and wrong at stake here and it's our lives, our rights, our future that are on the line . . . as well as the lives, rights and future of other Gays around the world.

If there's one thing that Gay leaders and activists around the world agree on it's coming out. From small town activists to leaders of the nation's largest Gay rights organisations we've heard it: the single most important thing Gay people can do is to come out.

One of my heroes, Martina Navratilova, said it at the March on Washington in 1993. Yet many Gay people don't even come out to their own parents and families, let alone to co-workers, neighbours, classmates and strangers.

It's too Hard, too Risky. Too Scary. Here's the challenge: **Come out!** Do it now. Do it everyday.

Tell your parents, your co-workers, your friends and neighbours. Hold hands when it feels appropriate. Put a photo of your partner on your desk.

Call your legislators and tell them your name, tell them you're Gay, that you're a constituent, and that you vote. Better yet, go and visit them. If you're a couple, go as one. Sit down, tell them what you do for a living, how old you are, where you live.

Do you have kids? Tell them. Let them see the real people whose rights they're thinking of voting away.

It'll take courage. It'll be hard. It will take time, effort, sacrifice. It might even cost you your job, could get you rejected and ostracised. You might lose a friend, lose your parents' approval. It happens. In extreme cases you might get harassed or beaten up. It doesn't happen often, but it's possible.

That's OK. You'll take the chance. You're courageous. You're a Super-hero, remember?

Please note: I use the word Gay inclusively: to mean homosexual, bisexual and transgendered people



A Message to the Straights (I)

by Camille Ho

*You can burn my books, close our bars,
Forbide our public gestures of love and care,
"Obscene, Indecent, Abnormal", Whatever you say,
Cannot hurt nor shame me into reclusion.*

*My nature is stronger than your words and morals,
Your do's and don't's, should's and shouldn't's,
My love for my woman is brighter and fiercer,
Than all your dark and sniggering accusations.*

*Choice would be mine to be gay, life after life-time,
Be who I am and love as I please,
To live in joy a thousand times over,
Than be closeted in godless hypocrisy.*

*Before, behind, beside you, we'll always be,
A taunting reminder of your deepest fears.
To know the wonders of our same-sex loving
defeats your gutless, hate-filled conspiracies.*

Media Watch

By **Barrie Brandon**

Last month *The Sunday Hong Kong Standard* managed to mention Gays, though not of course in a positive way. In an unwarranted and badly researched article Paul Johnson said "Homosexuals have taken the word Gay and given it a sinister meaning." What sinister meaning is this? Do we act as subversives? Are the streets full of people who have twisted the word Gay?

He went on to say; "They (Gays) should at least be able to pronounce the name of their vice." Johnson claims to have said this to a Gay lobbyist in a BBC studio in London. He doesn't unfortunately tell us what the lobbyists replied, although with just a little imagination, I can hazard an educated guess.

According to most reference books, including the one Johnson claims to have used clearly state the origin of the word and term Gay. Indeed in the September 1994 issue of *Contacts Magazine* we printed a complete history of the word and term dating as far as 1310.

In his biased and inflammatory article Johnson implies that all Gays are sodomites. Yet another clear instance of homophobia. Elsewhere in this edition you will find an excellent rejoinder to those that make this unsubstantiated claim.

Johnson stated that homophobic is a "non-word". What he appears to mean by this non-statement is that homophobic has only recently been introduced to the English language. For his information Homo (from the Greek not the Latin) means same. Phobic means a fear of. So there we have a fear of the same sex. If that isn't clear I really don't know how to explain it.

Although a letter was written to the

Editor of the paper, it was neither printed on the letters page nor replied to.

My attention was drawn to an article in *The Eastern Express Weekend Magazine* by the ancient and bitter tongued Anthony Lawrence who said (April 15th), talking about today's fashions for women, which he abhors, "Until now I had never believed that all fashion designers were homosexu-

als who hated women." Ignoring the fact that apparently Lawrence hasn't yet been introduced to the word misogynists (hater of women), it may come something of a shock to him to learn that the overwhelmingly vast majority of men had women as their mothers, who they love and treasure just as heterosexual men do.

There are many insults and slights in this statement that cannot go unchallenged. The most obvious ones are that not all fashion

"No, we won't go away and no we won't be quiet. Those days are gone and good rid-dance too!"

designer are gay —only the good ones! Secondly Gay people are everywhere—not just in fashion design but in every profession and job. Why did Lawrence feel the

need to fill out his article by bringing Gays into it? The answer it seems is that it was such a weak ineffective as well as grossly sexist article that he needed to pad it out.

Keith "I'm no bigot" Marshall of Tai Po wrote to the *Eastern Express* on the 18th April saying that if Robin Adams, who has made a point of challenging every piece of homophobia in the media of recent months, "really was upset at the draconian environment, he should go somewhere else where he would be treated more fairly."

Thus by such statement do bigots condemn themselves.

What Marshall and others of his ilk would clearly like is for anyone who is Gay and wants equal—not special rights—to go somewhere else. Just another case of it's not our problem pass, to someone or somewhere else. No, we won't go away and no we won't be quiet. Those days are gone

and good rid-dance too!

Meanwhile let's hope and keep our fingers crossed that Robin Adams *et al* don't get discouraged.

The South China

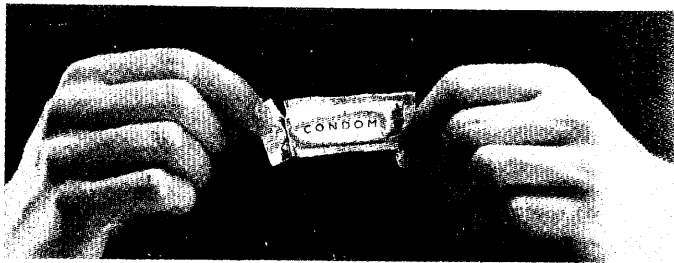
Morning Post must have been very short of copy last month they ran an article on the still to be published *Homosexuals in China*. Same photos of Fang Gang (he of the pouting lips) and book-cover. Fang says he suffered discrimination in trying to get the book published with some publishers saying the matter was "too sensitive." Fang makes the mistake though of describing Gays as "having a sexual preference." Fang also went onto say that he was a journalist and his role was to reflect the different views on society. In another interview he said "I think it is very dangerous for people to have several sexual partners." Sounds a bit judgmental, doesn't it?

We need to keep telling everyone we are here, and here to stay, and that our voice deserves to be heard. It's not up to a few to do this, it's up to ALL of us. Even if you can't put your name to a letter it is still important that you write to the newspaper, magazine or TV or Radio station and tell them what they are doing wrong that offends you.

Rip off the wrapper.



Open with care.



A bit of rough handling may not matter to jeans. But it's not good for condoms. If you don't open them carefully you may damage them. So never use your teeth. And never get oil on condoms. It can ruin them.

If you're using oil to give each other a massage, have a towel or tissue handy to wipe your hands. The heat from a radiator or bedside lamp can ruin condoms too. So keep them well clear. And check the expiry date stamped on the packaging. After that they lose their strength and shouldn't be used.

Take care of condoms if you want them to take care of you.

Sodom &

An examination of

I think it's time to call the fundamentalist right on their claim that the Sodom story gives proof of God's wrath against homosexuality. Let's start with what their own primary authority—the Bible—says about Sodom's sins.

Following is a list of every verse in the Bible that refers to the sins of Sodom. They can now point out every time that homosexuality occurs in this list:

Genesis 13:13: But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly. (Nope, no homosexuality mentioned there)

Genesis 18:20: And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous. (Nope, no homosexuality mentioned there)

Genesis 19:13: For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the Lord. (Nope, no

homosexuality mentioned there)

Deuteronomy 29:17-26: And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them...And that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning...like the overthrow of Sodom...which the Lord overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath...Wherefore hath the Lord done thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger? Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord God of their fathers...For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and whom he had not given unto them: (Just idolatry and false gods; nope, no homosexuality mentioned there)

Deuteronomy 32:32-38: For their vine is of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes are grapes of gall, their clusters are bitter...And he shall say, Where are their gods, their rock in whom they trusted. Which did eat the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their drink offerings? Let them rise up and help you, and be your protection. (idolatry again; nope, no homosexuality mentioned there)

Isaiah 1:9-23 Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah....How is the faithful city be-

come an harlot! It was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. (hmmm...murder, greed, thievery, rebelliousness, covetness; nope, no homosexuality there)

Isaiah 3:8-15: For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the Lord, to provoke the eyes of his glory. The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves. For ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses. What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? (Mistreating the poor; nope, no homosexuality mentioned there)

Isaiah 13: 11-19 And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible....And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. (haught

Gomorraah

homophobia, fact, and faith

By Deacon Maccubbin

ness, yes, but no homosexuality.)

Jeremiah 23:10-14: For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth...For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the Lord....And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err. I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah. (adultery, lying by priests and prophets; nope, no homosexuality in there)

Jeremiah 49:16-18: Thy terribleness hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart...Also Edom shall be a desolation: every one that goeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss at all the plagues thereof. As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah. (evil and pride, but still no homosexuality)

Jeremiah 50:2-40: Declare ye among the nations...say, Babylon is taken, Bel is confounded, Merodach is broken in pieces; her idols are confounded, her images are broken in pieces....thou hast striven against the Lord...for she hath been proud against the Lord...As God

overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbour cities thereof, saith the Lord; so shall no man abide there, neither shall any son of man dwell therein. (there's that idolatry and pride again, but still no homosexuality)

Lamentations 4:3-6: ...the daughter of my people is become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness. The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them. They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills. For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her. (cruelty, failure to tend the young and the poor, but still no homosexuality)

Ezekiel 16:49-50: Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good. (Well THAT's pretty clear, huh? But what are we missing in that list? Oh yeah...homosexuality)

Amos 4:1-11: Hear this word, ye kin of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria, which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink. I have over

thrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD. (oppression, mistreating the needy...still no homosexuality)

Zephaniah 2:8 I have heard the reproach of Moab, and the reviling of the children of Ammon, whereby they have reproached my people, and magnified themselves against their border. Therefore as I live, saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah...This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the Lord of hosts. (there's that pride again, and the intimation of inhospitality, but still no homosexuality)

Well, so much for the Old Testament's linkage of Sodom with homosexuality. Maybe the fundamentalists were referring to something in the New Testament? Let's see...

Matthew 20:11: And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. And when ye come into an house, salute it....And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.... Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgement, than for that city. (Jesus said these words; they draw a comparison to inhospitality, but there's still no homosexuality there)

Matthew 11:19-24: The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners....Then began Jesus to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not. Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes....And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day....But I say

unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgement, than for thee. (They ridiculed Jesus and treated him with utmost inhospitality, refusing to repent...but still no mention of homosexuality)

Mark 6:10-11: And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgement, than for that city. (Another repetition of the instruction against inhospitality, but still no mention of homosexuality)

Luke 10:10-12: But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say. Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city. (There's that inhospitality reference again, but still no homosexuality mentioned)

Luke 17:26-29: And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. (still no mention of homosexuality)

2 Peter 2:6: And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow,

making them an example unto those that after should live ungodly. (Ungodly? Is that idolatry again? It sure isn't homosexuality)

Jude 1:7-8: Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. (Awww...this one comes SO close, but no cigar; the Greek word translated here as "fornication" is "porneia" and had a distinctly heterosexual connotation; and the "strange flesh" was a reference to angels or "sons of God" that WOMEN had sex with [see Genesis 6:1-4] according to Jewish tradition; still no mention of homosexuality)

Well, except for a brief mention of Sodom in Revelations (where there is no reference to the city's supposed sins), I'm afraid we've covered them all. Now it's up to the fundamentalists. Surely they should have no difficulty pointing out ALL the verses in the Bible that refer to the sin of Sodom being that of homosexuality.

But they'll have to make them up first.

But we're not done yet. The traditional concept of the sin of Sodom arises from the fact that the Hebrew word here translated as "to know" (yadha) is used by itself in ten places in the Old Testament to denote heterosexual intercourse. In five additional texts it is used in conjunction with mishkabh (in this

context, "to lie") to mean the same thing. But yadha appears by itself no less than 943 times in a non-sexual connotation, to simply mean "get acquainted with" or "learn of."

There is no Old Testament text in which yadha refers to homosexual coitus, with the single exception of this disputed Sodom and Gomorrah story in Genesis. The less ambiguous word shakhabh, however, is used for homosexual, heterosexual, and bestial intercourse. Shakhabh appears fifty times in the Old Testament; if it had been used instead of yadha in the Sodom story, the meaning of the text would have been unmistakable. As it is, we have no grounds to assume that the men of Sodom wanted to rape the visitors.

An alternate theory has been developed by some biblical scholars. Since yadha commonly means "to get acquainted with," the demand to "know" the visitors may well have implied some serious breach of the rules of hospitality. Several considerations provide support for this view.

In the first place, Lot was not a native of Sodom, but had the status of resident alien, or "ger." As such, he may not have had the right to admit unidentified foreigners to the city. City gates were closed at night expressly to prevent lawless or subversive aliens from entering on unknown errands, and travellers carried credentials because they might at any time be asked to prove that they were abroad on legitimate business. Thus we might translate "Bring them out to us, that we might know them" as "We wish to know whom you are bringing into our city" or (in the vernacular of W.W.II German

movies) "Ve want to see your papers!" Lot's refusal to turn his visitors over to this horde of vigilantes is totally in keeping with the then contemporary laws of etiquette, because in those days no civic police force protected strangers in a city. Any kind of robbery or physical abuse could have been meted out to the two angels if he had agreed to surrender them, but in his home they were safe. He was obliged to protect them as honoured guests. It is certain that the Sodomites were demanding he violate the code of hospitality, but not AT ALL clear from the text that they were inclined to indulge in homosexual acts.

Lastly, even if the fundamentalists must insist (evidence to the contrary notwithstanding) that the men of Sodom wanted to have sex with the strangers, that's a matter of rape, not homosexual love. I think we can all agree that rape is right up there on the list of big sins, and further that it is an act of power, control, and violence, not of love between consenting adults.

There's another Old Testament passage that is relevant. The story is found in Judges 19:14-28. It bears a striking resemblance to the Sodom story — a traveller arrives at the city (in this case, Gilbeah). There he meets an old man who is, like Lot, a resident alien. The old man warns the traveller that he should not stay in the town square, and he extends the hand of hospitality in accordance with Holy law, inviting the traveller to share his abode for the night. But the men of the city surround the old man's house and demand that the traveller be sent out so "that we may know him" (there's that "yadha" again). The old man refuses, but offers his virgin daughter and his concubine to the mob instead. When the crowd refuses the offer, the old man throws his concubine outside as a diversion, whereupon the "base fellows"

in the mob rape and abuse her all night, leaving her dying at the threshold. When the Israelites learn of the abuse of the concubine, they rise up against Gilbeah and, with God's help, destroy the city.

Here we have an instance almost identical to Sodom, in which a city is destroyed following inhospitality to strangers, and a clear case of rape. Except this time it was a heterosexual rape. Yet no one uses this story to imply God's condemnation of heterosexuality in general. It is specious, then, to suggest that the story of Sodom is instructional with regard to homosexuality in general.

Those who insist that Sodom was destroyed for homosexuality are denying the very Bible they claim to revere, and attempting to push a laden camel through the eye of a needle. They are required to make five outrageous leaps of faith:

- (1) homosexual love is equal to rape;
- (2) "yadha" meant homosexual acts only once or twice and something else 953 times;
- (3) all of the other references to Sodom's sins contained in the Bible are in error, incomplete, or obfuscatory;
- (4) the strict codes regarding hospitality and the safety of travellers were immaterial; and
- (5) the concubine of the man of Gilbeah was a male.

Feedback

Labels

It seems to me that there are a lot of arguments going on to what one should label oneself (gay or queer) and what those labels mean.

Frankly, I don't understand what the big problem is. I identify as both gay and queer. When I identify as queer, I don't, as others put it, "lean heavily to the left on many issues."

I identify as queer because sometimes it gets tiring saying "gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered." Queer just seems more all encompassing to me. As for the argument that queer indicates that we are not normal, I have to ask what is normal?

Everyone has their own opinion as to what is normal and so, in somebody's eyes, I am not normal and therefore queer. And that's okay, because normal seems really boring anyway. When I don't identify as queer, I identify as gay...though sometimes, I like to say that I'm a male lesbian.

We really shouldn't get so hung up on labels that really don't mean anything. I identify as something only because that is the way society works, otherwise, they are just words to me.

Loren, Lamma Island

The Quilt

For: Viewing the Quilt last December in Hong Kong was very important for me. The reality of so many people (not just numbers or statistics) that the Quilt brought to my attention was damn important, and that reality does need to be brought to people who have not experienced it.

When I talk about the Quilt to my class and show a clip from Common Threads, many tell me later that it is the first time they really started to think about the way this disease affects people. If I can use this example to make someone who has not thought about this disease actually think about it, I'm happy.

The Quilt exists for the same reasons that books and anthologies and so much art does. We make whatever it is we want to make because that person we loved is gone and we want to do something and this feels right.

Brian Tso (Friend of The Quilt), Happy Valley

.....And against: Isn't it about time we stop celebrating death? The Quilt has gone on for 10 years and it just gets larger and larger. In America they use a computer now to track the panels so that local ones can be displayed in various cities. But this Quilt thing isn't going to end for a long time, and meanwhile instead of any kind of healing process, this Quilt makes people sad, depressed, and causes them to cry. Enough is enough. Maybe it's time to burn the AIDS Quilt and give it a proper burial, and get on with our lives.

How is viewing of a Quilt which upsets people and makes them cry going to do anything to focus attention on the AIDS problem? This is 1995, not 1985. When I think of the US \$1 million or so it takes to run the Quilt organisation and think of how many other ways that money could be spent, it makes wonder why people continue to spend money to perpetuate bureaucracies. Cleve Jones, the founder of the Quilt project in America saw that the AIDS Quilt was a gesture that would never end and bowed out of it long ago.

Steve Brown, Aberdeen

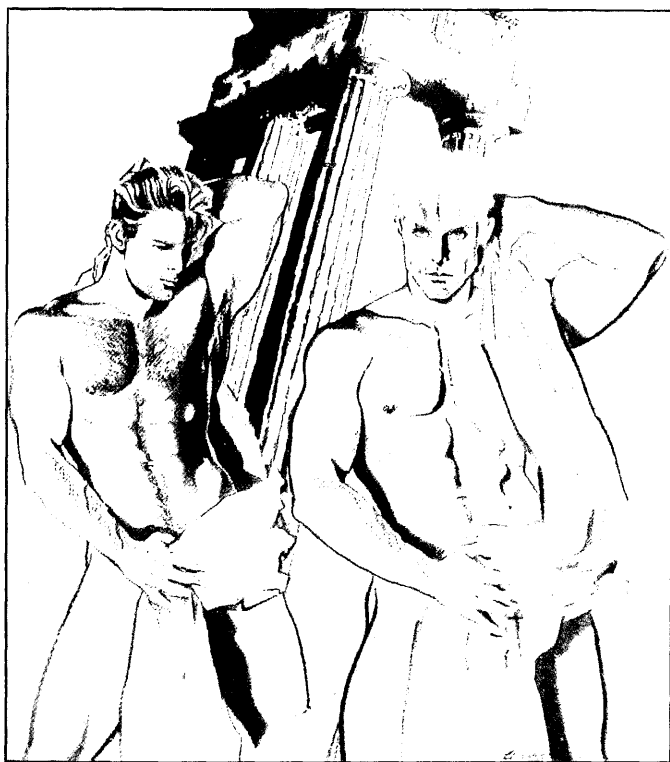
We Love getting your letters and cards. But we will only print them when they have your name, address & phone number. Anonymity can be requested. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

Perfect Gay Holiday

Simply
the best Gay Guide around!

85
countries. Latest information.

ODYSSEUS'95



JUST
\$290

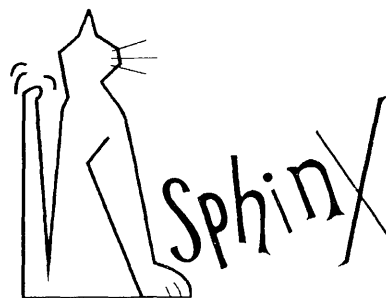
Free Postage. Subscribers price less 10%

Only available through

Island Publishing Co Ltd.,
GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong

BANGKOK'S BEST GAY NIGHTSPOT

F L O O R • 1



music • food • drinx
RESTAURANT & PUB

F L O O R • 2 • 3 • 4
DISCOTHEQUE



- VIDEO • KARAOKE
- DANCE SHOWS NIGHTLY
- WEEKLY THEME NIGHTS

SETTING
THE
TRENDS
IN
BANGKOK

S } L O M S O } 4

TEL (662) 234-7249

ARTHUR

A Short Story

by Mark Preston

Of course, hardness can go a long way toward making up for sheer size. I like men big, but I like men lean, too. Both at the same time is extra nice.

As for myself, I've never been anything other than moderately firm. It is not in my destiny, I don't think, to be really lean. W-i-d-e, yes. T-h-i-c-k, yes. L-e-a-n, no. Fortunately, though, even when I'm just putting on adipose it's always been fairly well-distributed.

Arthur, on the other hand, was solid muscle. Also, hairless as a Chihuahua, not that I cared a whole lot. He was a custodian working in the gym at the university in my hometown. I don't suppose he had much more than a 10th grade education and I'm not sure to what extent he was really literate. But he had a body that wouldn't quit.

Arthur was about an inch taller than I, which made him just a shade under 6 ft, and about 190 lb., but he didn't carry an ounce of fat. Not only did he have outstanding traps and a neck like a bull, he had the most perfect 48 inch chest I've ever seen, before or after. The pecs were big and full and round,

and there was a cleft as big as the Marianas trench that ran from the base of his neck all the way to his navel. Each one of his abdominal muscles was perfectly distinct from the other, his lats formed the classic v-shape and his serratus were finely honed. As for his arms, well...

SIGH!

I would always go early in the morning and in those days no one else would be in the gym. Arthur would unlock the weight room for me, then come along afterwards to sneak in a work out. Generally he would have on a white crew neck T-shirt, the fabric straining across the shoulders and standing out from his pecs.

One sweltering day I was naked except for my gym shorts and Arthur, who had just done about three non-stop sets of bench presses at 260 lb., was sweating like a pig.

"I dunno, maybe I should take off my shirt," he said, a little dubiously—after all, he worked there. "Oh, go on," I urged him. "U.L. (his boss) won't be around for a while..."

He did and I didn't soon enough, although 12 years later I still don't quite know how I avoided it. A year later, when I had put on 15 lbs. and was beginning to feel like I was finally getting there he gave me a benediction I'll never forget; "Damn, boy, you getting big. You'll have to go the Olympic gym one of these days. 'Course them boys make you and me look like a piece of spaghetti..."

"You and me?!" I thought. "You and me?!"

Arthur putting me in his class, even for the sake of comparison with something I rather suspected was completely unattainable, caused me to float for days.

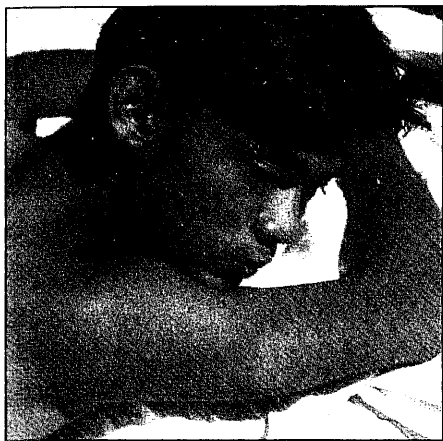
Far as I know, he still works there. By this point he's at least 40 and he had a gang of kids even then. I've always wanted to go back and check him out, but I've never done it.

Too afraid he would have gone to fat, more afraid that he would be even better than I remembered—he could have stopped shaving and grown kinky African hair on his chest and face, sorta like LeVar Burton with muscles.

Mostly afraid (certain) that he would have completely forgotten me.

The Male Club

ISSUE No. 2



Models
play musical instruments
in short shorts,
erotic underwear
and...
(60 pages)

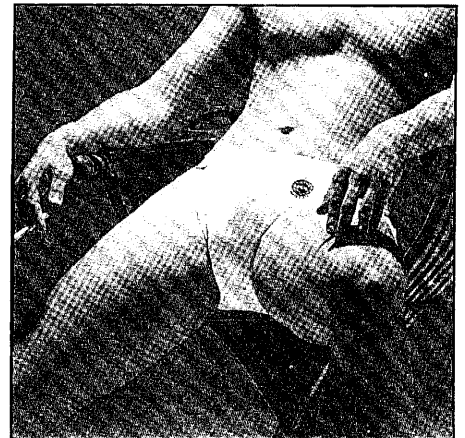
Price \$180

Features Asian Men in
poses that most of us would
love to get into.
Each issue has some ter-
rific tear out postcards of
models that, if you can
bear to part with them,
your friends will love
receiving them.

It's a big 280 x 280 cm.

Please send crossed cheque with
name and address to
Island Publishing Co. Ltd.
GPO Box 13427
Hong Kong

ISSUE No. 3



Expect the unexpected!
Big Colour photos, Sensu-
ous Masculine Models.
The Male Club will, we as-
sure you, grow on you.
(80 Pages)

Price \$210

BEST GUIDE NEW 2ND EDITION THE NORTH PACIFIC & ORIENT

FOR GAY MEN



BRUNEI • BURMA • CAMBODIA • CHINA • GUAM
HAWAII • HONG KONG • INDONESIA • JAPAN
KOREA • LAOS • MACAU • MALAYSIA • MARSHALL IS.
MICRONESIA • PHILIPPINES • SINGAPORE
TAIWAN • THAILAND • VIETNAM

386 pages of scrupulously-re-
searched in-depth coverage of
20 lands from Burma to Ha-
waii. How and where to make
social contacts with local gays
- and how to get around, and
find the best places to stay and
to eat.

\$180.00

Send crossed cheque with Name and Address
to

Island Publishing Company Limited
G.P.O.Box 13427 Hong Kong

Do you have the balls?

A home fertility test for men might seem as useful as a fan - heater in the Sahara to the average gay man, to whom sex is usually for recreation rather than procreation.

But such a testing kit will be available in the Netherlands later in the year.

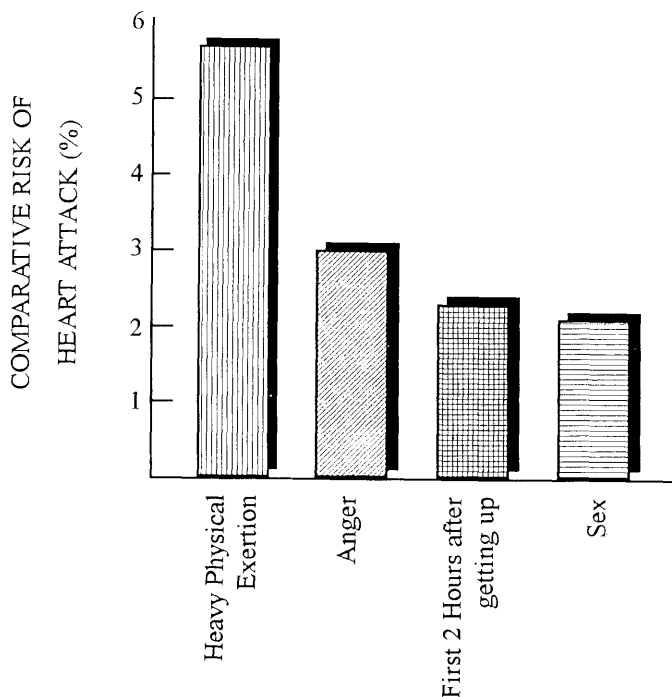
Adapted from a test to check the fertility of bulls, it is based on a dye which changes from deep purple to pink in the presence of oxygen. Vigorous sperm guzzle up oxygen as they swim, so Grade A sperm will activate the dye in a short time.

The test was developed by Frank Comhaire, at the Academic Hospital in Ghent, Belgium, in collaboration with Robert Ericsson, an independent biologist based in Florida, reports New Scientist.

A pack of two tests will cost about \$250.

**B
A
L
L
S**

Don't hurt yourself in the morning!

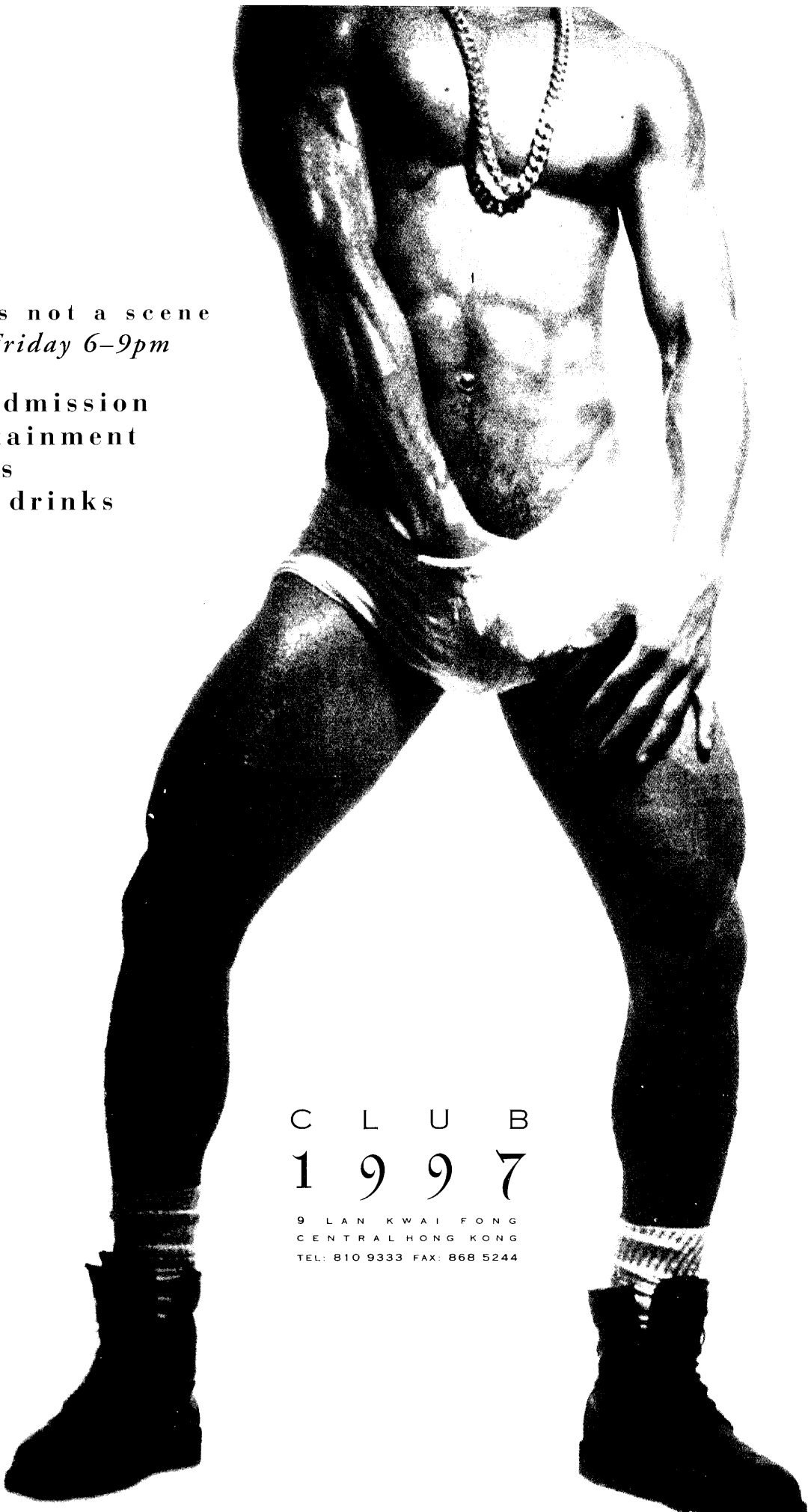


As of anybody ever needed an excuse: Sex is safer than getting out of bed, reports New Scientist.

According to research by James Muller of the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, who interviewed 1663 people recovering from heart attacks, sexual activity made a person 2.1 times as likely to have a heart attack as normal.

However, the risk of suffering a heart attack in the first two hours after getting up in the morning is estimated to be 2.3 times as great as normal.

Forget back to basics and get back to bed and follow your heart's desires.



this is not a scene
every Friday 6-9pm

free admission
entertainment
snacks
2-4-1 drinks

C L U B
1 9 9 7

9 LAN KWAI FONG
CENTRAL HONG KONG
TEL: 810 9333 FAX: 868 5244

There's no present like time

Interview
by Danny Wong

Gerald Libonati is a writer who lives in Miami, Florida. He has just released his second novel, *The Adjuster*, a fantasy adventure about a modern, confident gay artist who travels back in time to 1928, The Jazz Age, where gay pride didn't exist.

Danny Wong: Was the novel autobiographical?

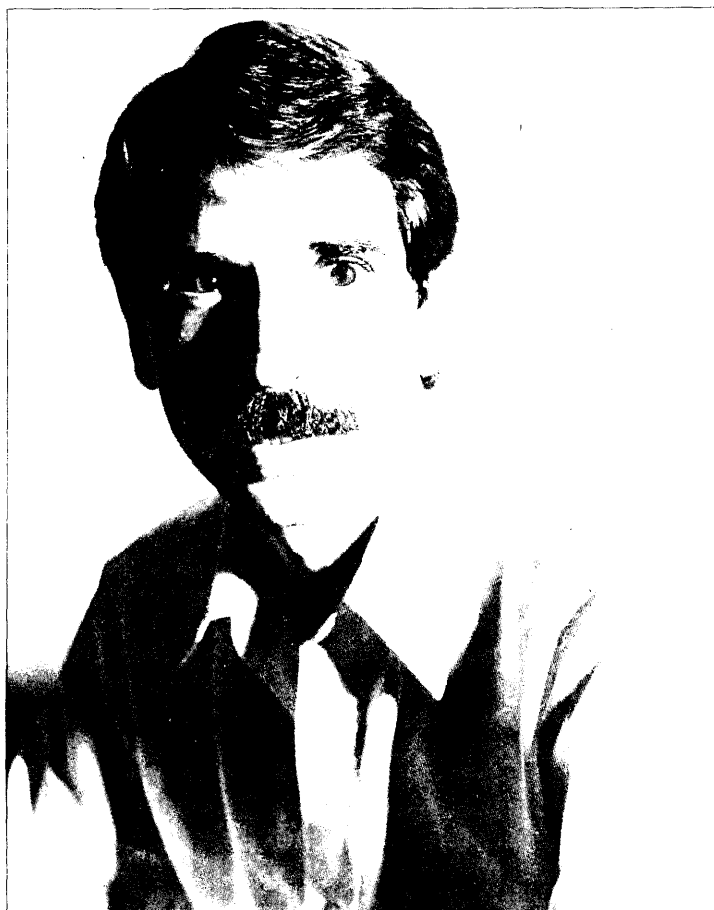
GL: *Tropic Lights*, my first novel, was about real people but *The Adjuster* is purely fictional. These are characters without body fat that you're more likely to see in your fantasies than in your bedroom. And I can honestly say I've never travelled backward in time. I have, however, travelled forward, but then, who hasn't?

DW: Why did you write about time travel?

GL: Well, as a group of people, we've come a long, long way. We're not the same now as we were 20 years ago. And certainly not the same as we were 60 years ago. We have our own newspapers like this one, we have our own businesses, bars, support groups, things that someone from the 20's couldn't even imagine. And I wondered what it would be like for someone from our time to meet someone from that time. I think it would be interesting to see if he or she would even believe what we told them. That might be equally true of the women's movement, the civil rights movement, all of it.

DW: Why did you choose to be a writer?

GL: It's not something I do to pay the rent, I'll tell you that, but it is something I love. I used to write stories in elementary school and bug the teacher to let me read them to the class. I was quite the little ham back then. Not so much any more. Then I started



The author Gerald Libonati

working for the Miami Herald, not as a writer, but I was able to do some writing for them. And then I did a regular column for the University of Miami Hurricane. But I didn't feel I could write about gay issues then, and I wanted to do that.

DW: Why did you want to write about gay issues?

GL: Because, that's my experience. And when I grew up in the 60's, information wasn't available the way it is today on gay issues. I mean, I grew up like so many other gay kids believing I was the only one around. Of course that still may be true in small towns but not in the cities. Now we have gay youth groups and gay clubs on college campuses. I just wanted to be sure that other gay people didn't have to struggle and hunt secretly for information that told them it was okay to be gay. *The Adjuster* is definitely gay positive and that's the kind of input we need to counter all of the negative bias we feed on throughout our lives.

DW: You published *Tropic Lights* in 1985?

GL: Yes, I was very fortunate. That novel is out of print now. I'd met Peter Meyer by then, he was my partner. He died in '92 but we both had this interest, not only in gay rights, but improving the self-image of gay people. I suppose that had a lot to do with wanting to improve our own self-image. I had written an article for the *Advocate* on the language we use to describe ourselves which I thought was limiting. Like when we talk about a trick instead of a date or having a lover instead of a spouse or calling heterosexuals "straight" as if to say that we see ourselves as something warped or whatever "not straight" means - and usually it means something not good.

In *Tropic Lights* I was trying to say that being gay was just fine and that we are a terrific group of people. Movies and the media

were still stuck on portraying gay men and lesbian women as miserable or as victims. They might be terribly daring and stick in a gay character but he had to be unhappy or it wouldn't sell. I wanted to see more positive images so I wrote the novel. Self image is always a dominant theme in my work. Through Peter, I got involved in producing the Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual Identity Conferences at Miami-Dade Community College which attracted speakers from all over the country. I met some wonderful people in the gay political and literary arena who had some interesting things to say and helped shape my own attitudes.

DW: Like who?

GL: Well, like Barbara Grier, Publisher of Naiad Press, the oldest and largest lesbian publishing house in the world, who always used inclusive language when she spoke of the gay and lesbian community. She talked about our men and our women. And Dennis Altman, author of *The Homosexualisation of America* who thought we overused the word community.

"Everything is a community," he said as we sat in a dark bar one night. And Quentin Crisp, a very sweet man, he told me that the most painful thing for a writer was to reread his own words and that the best thing about writing was the promotion afterward when the whole thing was finished. I don't know if I agree with that, though.

DW: Is that how you published your second novel?

GL: You mean by networking with people in the ah...community? No. Actually the second novel came much later - ten years later. I thought, once you had your first novel published then the second would be a snap but that's not the way it works. As any writer will tell you, publishing is a highly competitive field and getting a novel in print's no guarantee you'll have another one published. After *Tropic Lights* I started writing for the gay press. I did a psycho/social column called *Metropolis* which ran in *David Magazine*, a weekly publication for the state of Florida. Did you know that most transvestites are heterosexual? I didn't. That's the kind of psycho-babble I wrote about and let me say I learned a hell of a lot from those interviews. You see, a lot of us still believe the homophobic shit we grew up with because no one told us it wasn't true. Researchers used to get data on homosexuals by interviewing prisoners and people in mental institutions.

If you interviewed heterosexuals in prisons and institutions you'd probably come up with an equally warped image of them, as well. Then I had a short story published in Michael Nava's gay mystery anthology *Finale*. That story was about reincarnation.

DW: Do you believe in that?

GL: Probably, although my spiritual values are changing right now.

DW: Does that mean you're going back to Catholicism?

GL: I'm not going back to Catholicism, no. I'm thinking that reality is far more bizarre than we suspect.

DW: So tell me about the new book

GL: Aaah, my favourite subject. I wrote *The Adjuster* originally for Knights Press. They published my first novel but then they went out of business. So then it was picked up by Los Hombres in San Diego. Unfortunately, they, too, went out of business and no, I don't think I had anything to do with that strange coincidence. Avant

Garde is publishing it now. The manuscript made the rounds as manuscripts do. One publisher rejected it saying that gay people don't buy fantasies which I thought was odd since I'm gay and I love fantasy movies like "StarGate" and "Somewhere In Time" and "Interview With The Vampire." They're great and I'd love to see them done for a gay audience. That was my objective with this book. I just hope that guy was wrong about what gay people buy.

DW: And what is it about?

GL: It's about this real cocky, self-assured, post-stonewall artist who goes back in time to the 20's where he meets a young man who is very closeted and doesn't know the first thing about gay consciousness because it didn't exist. Obviously, his presence has a profound effect on the people of that time. He also meets up with a sympathetic advocate for women's rights which was just getting started around them. And he has to confront the priests of a Tibetan monastery from which the time-travel piece was stolen.

The Adjuster is available by direct mail from the publisher by sending US \$13.50, which includes tax, shipping and handling, to Avant Garde Books 7545 Biscayne Blvd. Miami, FL USA 33138.

**Advertising
in this space
could bring
your business
more than
2,000 new
customers
every month!**

Call Tony Ng
on 2817 9447
or fax 2817 9120
for further details

**Contacts
Magazine**



Asian Male Model Catalogue



**Introducing Asian Models in our quality, coloured, catalogues.
issues 1 to 8 now available.**

Order Catalogues now at A\$14 each or A\$12 each for multiple orders.

Asian male nude photos available at A\$4.50 each or A\$20 for 5 copies

JMJ Enterprise P.O.Box 137, Glen Iris VIC 3146, Australia.

Payment in Australian dollars Bank Draft Only.

S U P E R G A Y V I D E O S

- From Europe, USA and Japan.
- Maximun Satisfaction Guaranteed.
- Reasonable Prices.
- Free Delivery.

Call Dickson for an appointment.

**2619-0980
24 Hour Service**

Prices and Order Form

- ☐ Men's Personal ☐ Women's Personal
☐ Mixed Personal ☐ Flat Share
☐ Pen Pals ☐ Goods Wanted & For Sale

Avoid delay, check details carefully. Please tick ✓ your selected category. All prices in Hong Kong \$.

First 15 Words \$50.00
 Box number \$30.00 \$.....
 Extra Words \$2/word \$.....
 Display Box \$40.00 \$.....
 Your photo printed \$30.00 \$.....
Sub Total \$.....
 Number of insertions.....
 Repeat adverts 50% discount
 in the next issue \$.....
Total for personal adverts \$.....

Subscription

6 Months \$180.00 \$.....
 12 Months \$300.00 \$.....

Grand Total \$.....

Please Note. The Editor reserves the right to decline to publish any advert without giving reasons, and a full refund will be given. Any advert that is not published due to space restrictions will be published in the following issue of the publication.

Overseas advertising and subscription rates on request.

Please insert the following advert in the next issue(s) of Contacts Magazine
PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS (1 word per box)

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

I am over 21, signed _____ Date _____

I enclose a crossed cheque for \$ _____ Made payable to Island Publishing Co. Ltd.

Island Publishing Co. Ltd. G.P.O. Box 13427 Hong Kong.

Fax: 2817-9120 Tel: 2817-9447

**Free
Personal
Adverts
For All
New
Subscrib-
ers (In-
cludes
Box
Number
& up to
15
Words)**

ORDER FORM

Please use capital letters

Name : _____

Address: _____

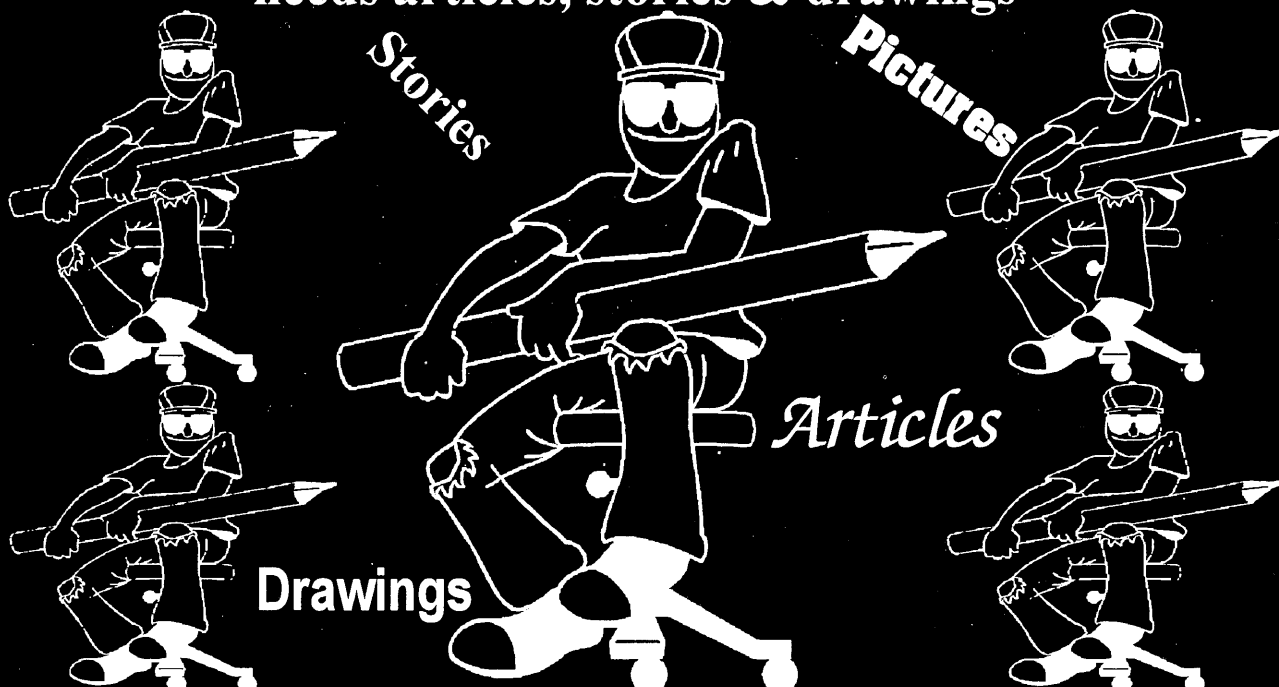
I am over 21. Signed _____ (Please write the code number)

	Code	Name	Price	Qty	Total	Postage	Sub. Total
(1)							
(2)							
Total:							

Send crossed cheque made payable to:
Island Publishing Co. Ltd., G.P.O.Box 13427 Hong Kong

Contacts Magazine

needs articles, stories & drawings



GPO Box 13427 Hong Kong.

Tel : 2817-9447 Fax: 2817-9120

P e r s o n a l s

Advertisers are requested to reply to all letters received and to return photos when asked. ALA means All Letters Answered. Advertisers are asked not to state this unless they mean it.

How To Reply

\$1 stamps

*Place 2 x \$1 stamps per reply
*(Free to overseas subscribers)

Personals #69

+ sealed reply

Contacts Magazine
Island Publishing Co. Ltd.,
GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong.

in outer envelope

Contacts Magazine will open the outer envelope, collect the 2 x \$1 stamps per reply, and forward the sealed replies to the advertiser.

怎樣回覆徵友信箱

請依照以下的步驟來回覆徵友信箱，既簡又快捷；而我們亦會盡快將你的信交到他們手上，所有信箱服務期為三個月，由刊登開始。

步驟(一)：首先將你每一封信放在每一個獨立的白色信封內，然後在每一個信封的右上角寫上你要回覆的信箱號碼，及將信封封口。

步驟(二)：每一封信我們收取兩個一元的郵票服務費。假若多過一封信，便要多給郵票，如此類推，但郵票並不難要貼在信封上，只要將它放入寄給 Contacts Magazine 的信封內便可，然後將你的姓名及地址寫在一張紙上。

步驟(三)：將你的信、郵票及寫了姓名及地址的字條一起放入一個信封內，然後寄 Contacts Magazine G.P.O. Box 13427 Hong Kong.

Adverts for inclusion in the next issue should reach us by 3rd June. Fill in the form on the page 28 or fax us on (852)2817-9120.

MEN

If you don't mind sharing your thoughts with a tall, slim, inexperienced, 25-aged, Chinese guy. Please write to me. Box 178

Chinese, 23, dislike nightlife, into outdoor activities. Seek mature family man, 35-50, 170-175cm for relationship. Box 177

Chinese, 36, slim, non-smoker, likes squash, jogging, tennis, travelling, swimming. Needs over 37 non-smoker for relationship. Please write with photo to PO Box 25831, Harbour Bldg., Post Office, Hong Kong

Jason 19, likes reading, playing volleyball and badminton. Seek strong, over 21 to 30. Please call 24668146 after 8pm every day.

Athletic, GWM (30's) wanted. Me: Chinese, mid-20's passionate, sensual, with a quiet exterior and great smile. Like masculine men with smell of Fahrenheit who also cherish a monogamous and lifetime relationship. Box 166

Chinese, 23, 5'6". Seek westerner 30-40, fatherly! Considerate, little fat. Please write with photo. Box 170

I am looking for a teddy bear who is: non-smoker, handsome, over 30, clean-shaven. Me? You guess! Photo appreciated. Box 171

Handsome, stunning, 28 yrs, swimmers body. Seeks guys up to 30 any nationality. Photo ensures reply. Box 163

22, inexperienced, considerate, hopes for long-term, permanent and mature love. Box 173

Sporty Chinese, 27. Seeks masculine Western guy, non-smoker for relationship. Box 174

Chinese Executive, 31, physically fit, straight acting. Into reading, music, gym, films. Seeks similiar Chinese/Asian. Box 172

Chinese 25, slim. Likes swimming and badminton. Seeks Chinese gentlemen below 30 for friendship and relationship. Box 165

Chinese, 23, good looking and strong. Seeks muscular young guys for friendship. Photo confirms reply. Box 158

Chinese, below 25. Seek muscular young guys for friendship, photo appreciated. Address: P.O.Box 547, Tsuen Wan Post Office, N.T.

WOMEN

Chinese, 22, Lesbian, sensitive. Seeks penfriends/friendship. Write to me with photo, please. Box 179

PEN PALS

Chinese, 30, Singaporean, muscular man, 1.80m (tall) & 79kg (weight). Hobbies: travel, body building, singing. Seeks Asian men from 24 to 36 years old for friendship and relationship. ALA. Please write with photo to Box 180

Two Polish Gay Guys (1) 22 yr. 185 lb. (2) 38 yr. 170 lb. Black hair and moustache. Attractive bodies, both single. Hobbies travel, music, cooking love of good looking men. Want to correspond with Hong Kong guys. Come and visit beautiful Poland! ALA with Photos. Czeslaw Toczek, PO Box 258, 35-959 Rzeszow 2, Poland.

Chinese, 31, Singaporean. Hobbies: Weight-training, Art, musci and travelling. Seeks Asian men 30 to 40 years old for friendship and pen-pal. Please write with photo to: Lum, Toa Payoh North P.O.Box 0796, Singapore 9131.

Subscribe

to

Contacts Magazine

the best way to make sure of your copy!

Save

up to 20% a year and get a free personal advert.



• **Contacts Magazine**
sold here.

Gay Guide



BARS & DISCOS

● CE TOP

9/F 37-43 Cochrane Street,
Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2544-3581
5:00 pm - 3:00 am



CLUB '97

9 Lan Kwai Fong,
Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2810-9333, Friday 6 - 9:00 pm

DATE LINE CAFE

3/F, Chatham Centre, 11-15 Chatham Road South,
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.
Tel: 2316-2962
Every Day: 5:30 pm - 2:00 am

● PETTICOAT LANE

2, Tun Wo Lane,
Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2973-0642
Mon.-Sat.: 12:00 pm - 2:30 am

● PROPAGANDA

1/F, 30-32 Wyndham St, Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2868-1316.
Mon.-Sat: 9:00 pm - 3:30 am
Happy Hours 9:00 pm - 10:30 pm

WALLY MATT LOUNGE

9 Cornwall Avenue,
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.
Tel: 2367-6874

YY (YIN-YANG)

30 Ice House St, Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2868-4066.
Every day: 9:30 pm - 4:00 am



GUEST HOUSE

BABYLON VILLA

29, Lower Cheung Sha,
Lantau Island, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2980-2872



KARAOKE

BABYLON

5/F, Kingpower Commercial Bldg.,
409-413 Jaffe Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2573-3978. 8:00 pm - 2:00 am

WHY NOT

12/F, Kyoto Plaza, 491-499 Lockhart Road.,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Tel: 2572-7808. 8:00 pm - 2:00 am

H20

2/F, Hop Yee Bldg., 474-476 Lockhart Rd.,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2834-6451, 5:00 pm - 3:00 am

MEMBERS CONNECTION

3/F, 5 Lan Fong Road,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2890-7731. 8:00 pm - 3:00 am

SAUNAS & FITNESS CENTRES

AE

1/F Kwong Ah Bldg.,
114 Thomson Road.
Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2591-0500. 2:00 pm - 1:00 am



BA

1/F Flat D, Cheung Hong Mansion,
25-33 Johnston Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2527-7073. 2:00 pm - 2:00 am

● BOBSON FITNESS CLUB

35-37 Hankow Rd, 3/F Flat D,
Mag Building, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.
Tel: 2376-2208. 3:30 pm - 1:00 am

CENTRAL ESCALATOR

2/F1., Cheung Hing Comm. Bldg.,
No. 37-43 Cochrane Street,
Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2581-9951. 1:00 pm - 1:00 pm

GAME BOY'S

2/F, 324 Lockhart Road,
Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2574-3215. 12:00 am - 2:00 am

JJ PARK

3/F, Flat A, Fairview Mansior.,
51 Paterson Street.,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2882-2399. 3:00 pm - 12:00 pm

KK

16/F, Block A,
Fuk Lok Bldg.,
19-21 Jordan Road, Kowloon.
Tel: 2388-6138. 2:00 pm - 2:00 am

ROME CLUB

2/F Chiap Lee Bldg.,
27 Ashley Road,
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.
Tel: 2376-0602. 3:00 pm - 12:00 am

YUK TAK CHEE

G/F 123 Prince Edward Road.,
Kowloon.
Tel: 2393-9505 12:00 pm - 12:00 am

SHOPPING

GEAR

Ground Floor,
4 Anton Street,
Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2527-1557



SPLASH MENS CONNECTION

1/F, Wah Fung Bldg.,
245-251, Lockhart Road,
Wanchai, Hong Kong
Tel: 2588-1296

COUNSELLING

PEER COUNSELLING

By appointment only. The only professional counselling service for gay men in Hong Kong.
Tel: 2817-7129

THE SAMARITANS

Tel: 2896-0000

HKU PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNSELLING CENTRE

HKU, Bonham Road,
Western District, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2859-2308

ST. JOHNS COUNSELLING SERVICE

St. Johns Cathedral, Garden Road,
Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2525-7207; 2525-7208

24 HOUR HOTLINE

English 173-969611
Chinese 173-969612
(calls charged at \$1 for 6 seconds)

AIDS INFORMATION & HELPLINES

AIDS CONCERN

Helpline: 2898-4422.
General Enquiries: 2898-4411



AIDS HOTLINE (DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH)

Tel: 2780-2211

AIDS FOUNDATION

General Enquires Tel: 560-8528
Helpline: 2513-0513
Infoline: 170 222 170



SOCIAL GROUPS

THE 10% CLUB

P.O.Box 72207 Central Post Office Kowloon.
Tel: 2314-8726

HORIZONS

G.P.O.Box 6837 Hong Kong.
Tel: 2359-3195

BEACHES



MIDDLE BAY BEACH

South Bay Road, Hong Kong.

SOUTH BAY BEACH

South Bay Road, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong's only Lesbian and Gay magazine.

Produced by

Island Publishing Company Limited.

GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong

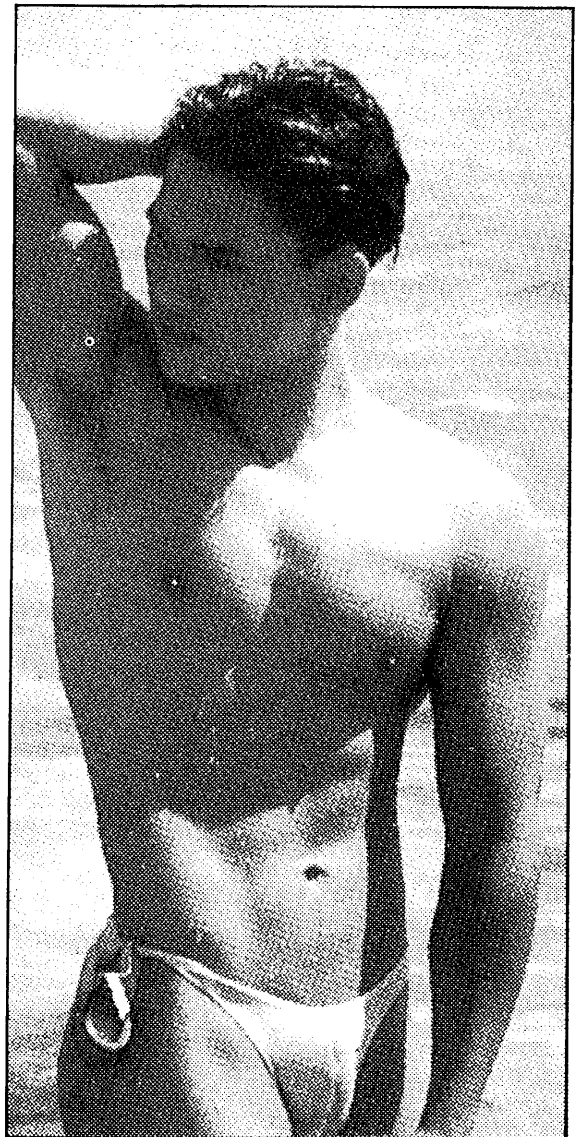
Fax: (852)-2817-9120 **CONTACTS** Tel: (852)-2817-9447
MAGAZINE

Indulge your fantasies...

Featuring the men of
Japan
Thailand
China
Mexico
the Caribbean
Brazil

A great way to make contact
with new friends and penpals

Single copies \$95.
Yearly subscription \$528.
Price includes postage



Asian and Latin Erotica

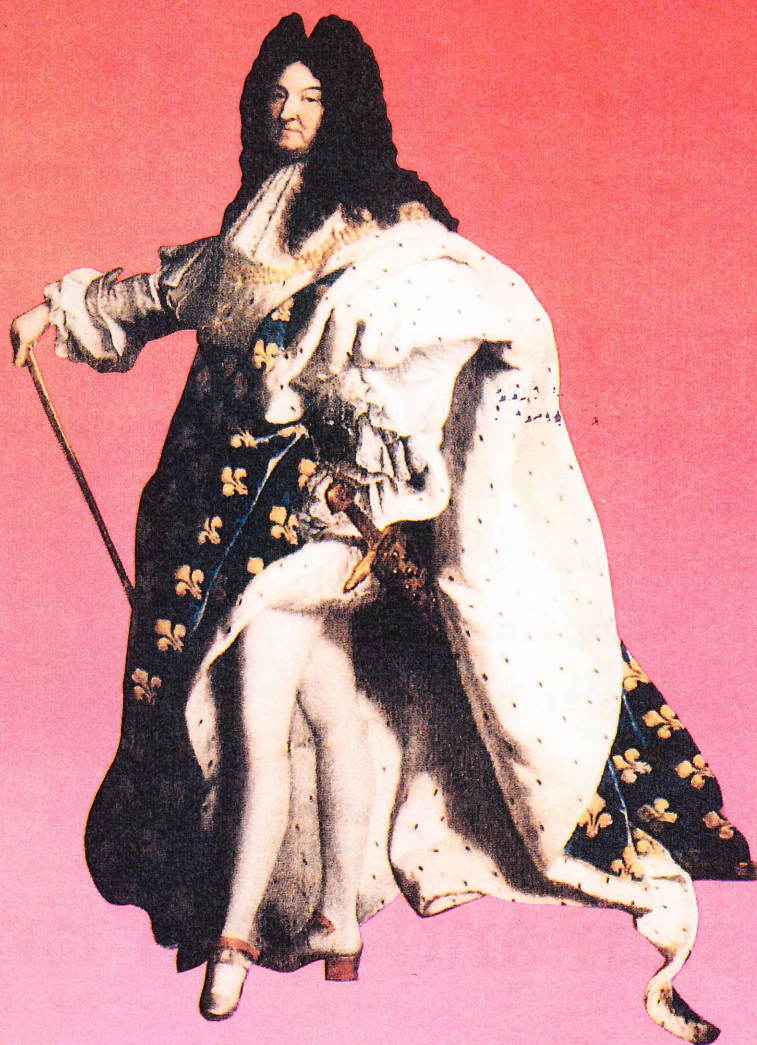
A bi-monthly magazine imported direct from America.

Please send crossed cheque to
Island Publishing Co. Ltd.

GPO Box 13427
Hong Kong

Petticoat Lane

A BAROQUE-STYLE BAR
FOR THE OPEN-MINDED.



Food, Drinks, People, Style.

No. 2 Jun Wo Lane, Central, Hong Kong

29730642

CONCEPTUALISED AND MANAGED BY 1997.